

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 were pending. Claims 3, 5, 10, 12, 16, 18, 23, and 25 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 11, 13-14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26-27, and 29-32 have been amended.

In the present Office Action, claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 15, 20-22, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,665,714 (hereinafter “Blumenau”). In addition, claims 3-7, 10-12, 13, 16-19, 23-27, and 29-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blumenau in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,260,120 (hereinafter “Blumenau & Raz”). Applicant respectfully traverses at least some of the above rejections and requests reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Applicant respectfully submits each of the pending claims recite features which are neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. For example, claim 1 recites a method of allocating storage to a host in a computer network which includes:

“performing path discovery;
identifying storage coupled to said computer network;
mapping said storage to said host;
building a storage path database; and
storing said database within the host;
detecting a failure of said host;
retrieving said stored database, in response to detecting said failure; and
utilizing said database to re-map said storage to said host.” (emphasis added).

Applicant submits at least the above highlighted features are neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. Generally speaking, the above highlighted features

corresponds to prior claims 2 and 5. With respect to claim 5, the present Office Action (paragraph 9) admits that Blumenau does not teach the features of prior claim 5. However, it is suggested that Blumenau & Raz teach these features. In particular, the following portions of Blumenau & Raz are cited:

“The host names are also known to the hosts, so that the relationship between each host and the volumes assigned to the host can be re-established automatically if both the S_IDs and WWNs would happen to change, for example as a result of host controller replacement and a change in the configuration of the data network. In this situation, the host controller port can transmit its corresponding group name to the storage subsystem during a login process or in response to a request from the storage subsystem in response to a state change notification so that the storage subsystem can reestablish the relationship of the host controller port's volume group name and volume list with respect to its new WWN and S_ID.” (Blumenau & Raz, col. 15, lines 24-36).

“In any case, the host must be programmed to seek out the LUNs that it can access. For example, a host controller routine first powers up and logs in to the network. Then a mapping driver in the host is loaded into the host's memory, and the mapping driver contains the network addresses of the data storage subsystem adapter ports to access, and contains instructions for sending the commands to these adapter ports to obtain the LUN information or read the primary copy of the configuration information in the storage subsystem. The host operating system invokes the mapping driver to obtain the LUNs accessible to it.” (Blumenau & Raz, col. 33, lines 50-63).

In the above, there is no disclosure of “detecting a failure of said host.” In addition, the above disclosure of Blumenau & Raz make clear that the host accesses the storage subsystem in order to either obtain access to the configuration information or

have the storage subsystem reestablish a relationship of the host controller port's volume group name and volume list with respect to its new WWN and S_ID. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits the above highlighted features are not disclosed by Blumenau and Raz and a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

In view of the present amendments, Applicant submits claim 1 is patentably distinct from the cited art. In addition, because each of independent claims 8, 14, 21, 29, 30, 31 and 32 include similar limitations, each of these independent claims are patentably distinct from the cited art as well. Therefore, Applicant submits all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

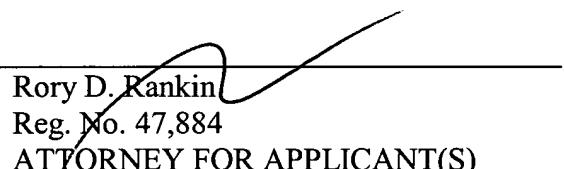
Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5181-81100/RDR.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,


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